

X.—*Descriptions of new Genera and Species of Coleoptera from South and West Africa, of the Section Serricornia, and of the Families Erotylidæ, Endomychidæ, and Languriidæ.* By H. S. GORHAM, F.Z.S. &c.

THE beetles of which this paper gives an account were principally collected in 1896 by Mr. Guy A. K. Marshall in Natal and near Salisbury, in Mashonaland. One species (*Hedybius amœnus*) had already been described by me in Distant's 'Naturalist in the Transvaal' from that district. The Lycidæ have also been previously described by Mr. Bourgeois. Mr. Marshall sends several very closely allied species; and in general the species of small Coleoptera are very similar from widely separated parts of the African continent, so that I have found it convenient to include in this paper certain species which have been known to me for some time from the western parts, as they really form part of one vast fauna, differing, indeed, in genera from their nearest allies in their respective families, but widely distributed in the African continent, both as regards these genera and even in many instances as to the species.

I have also received from Mr. Marshall a number of Cassidæ and Coccinellidæ from the same countries, which will form the subject of another paper.

Section SERRICORNIA.

Fam. Cleridæ.

Philocalus compressicornis.

Tillus compressicornis, Klug, Abhand. Berl. Akad. 1842, p. 273, t. ii. fig. 3.

Hab. Natal; Mashonaland, Umfuli River, Gadzima (Marshall).

Three specimens. Klug's examples were from Herr Krebs's collecting and probably from Natal, though referred to as "vom Kap." Westwood's *Tillus uniformis* from Gambia may possibly be the male, but it is not (as placed in the Munich Catalogue) a *Macrotelus*, Klug = *Monophylla*, Spin.,—a generic name which only includes the American *M. terminatus*. *Philocali* are very rare in collections; I had not seen this insect before.

Phlaecopus undulatus, sp. n.

Nigro-piceus, robustus, valde pubescens, fortiter punctatus; elytrorum maculis duabus basalibus, una humerali, una lineari scutellari sanguineis; fascia tenui mediana valde dentata, maculaque subapicali suturam haud attingente testaceis.

Long. 14-15 millim.

Mas, antennarum articulo ultimo elongato, falciformi; abdominis segmento quinto emarginato.

Femina, antennarum articulo ultimo dimidio breviori.

Hab. Natal; Mashonaland, Umfuli River, Gadzima (Marshall); Zambesi (coll. Gorham).

Head clothed with golden-brown pubescence, thickly, coarsely, and rugosely punctured; antennæ of the pitchy-black colour of the whole body, the terminal joint long and falcate, much longer in the male, equalling the preceding eight joints. The thorax is longer than wide, shining, distinctly but sparsely punctate, with a deep but vague central channel; anterior constriction ill-defined. Elytra at the base scarcely wider than the thorax, wider at the apex; the punctuation is cellular and confluent, coarse for half their length, not so coarse and worse defined beyond the fascia; the fascia is rendered irregular by coarse punctuation, it has a double undulation, sometimes it reaches the margin and at others it does not; there are two deep blood-red not conspicuous marks at the base and a yellowish spot at the apex. The scutellum is clothed with golden-yellow pubescence. The femora are coarsely punctured; the tibiæ are also punctured and have carinæ on their sides. The body beneath is shining, sparsely and rather obsoletely punctured; the fifth segment in the male is broadly and angularly emarginate, exposing the membranous base of the sixth, and it has deep strong punctures round the margin, the sixth ventral plate being very smooth and shining.

This insect has been known to me for many years from specimens from Natal. It is apparently allied to *P. flavonotatus*, Bohem., but seems to differ in the colour of the antennæ, which are entirely dark, in the apical spot not being double, by the larger size, &c.

Mr. Marshall has sent three specimens, two being from Gadzima, one of which is a male.

Trichodes tugelanus, sp. n.

Niger, subæruleus, elongatus, subparallelus, pubescens; capite prothoraceque creberrime confluentem punctatis; elytris aurantiacis, fasciis duabus latis apiceque nigris; creberrime rugose

confluentes punctatis, punctis in seriebus vix congestis: antennis brevibus, articulis quatuor basalibus rufis (supra nigro-notatis), clava valida, articulo apicali lato, apice intus acuminato: pedibus nigris, femoribus tibiisque cerulescentibus, unguibus rufis, simplicibus.

Long. 10-11 millim.

Hab. Natal, Tugela River, Weenen (*Marshall*).

Elongate, parallel; head and thorax dark steel-blue, thickly rugosely punctate, the latter half as long again as wide, the front margin straight, the base rounded; there is no constriction, but the disk is depressed a little behind the front and there is a somewhat carinate bright line down the middle. Elytra scarcely wider than the thorax; they have three orange bands narrowly interrupted at the suture, the first and second united along the margin: the first occupies the base and shoulder, but is rounded off on each side of the scutellum; the second is undulate, concave towards the base; the third orange band is subapical, cut out in front at the suture. The abdomen and body beneath are blue.

The pattern of the elytra of this insect is almost identical with that of the North-American *T. apivorus*. It is really allied to *Clerus lepidus*, Walker, a species described from examples taken by J. K. Lord in "Egypt," and figured by C. Waterhouse in 'Aid to the Identification of Insects,' t. lxxvi., also noticed by him in the index to vol. i. of the same publication, p. 12, and of the variety examples of which, without a central orange band, are in my collection from "Tajura, Straits of Bab-el-Mendeb." Both this insect and *T. tugelanus* are aberrant, if, indeed, they can be referred to *Trichodes*. The cultriform apical joint of the antennæ, though short, almost square, yet acuminate on its inner side, agrees with that genus better than with *Philocalus*. Two *Trichodes* only have yet been recorded from South Africa, viz. *T. aulicus*, Klug, Spin., and *T. Dreyei*, Chevr. Rev. et Mag. Zool. 1874, p. 50, unless, as M. Chevrolat seems to think (*cf.* note, p. 16, l. c.) *T. aulicus*, Klug, is a different species from *T. aulicus*, Spin. t. xxxi. fig. 4, in which case there are three. These Cape Colony "*Trichodes*" are very scarce; I possess two examples only, which appear to be distinct species, and neither of them agrees with the figure in Spinola, the base of the elytra having only a narrow line of red in one and being wholly dark green in the other, besides other differences. Insects labelled "Cap," *g*, *h*, &c., from old collections, must be received with reserve as to the locality, as any South-African locality was often so designated.

T. zahara, Chev. (*l. c.* pp. 16, 51; Rev. Zool. 1861, p. 152), I have not seen. The Egyptian and North-African species of *Trichodes* are at present ill defined*.

Three examples of *T. tugclanus* were obtained by Mr. Marshall.

DOLICHOPSIS, Gorh.

Dolichopsis, Gorh. Trans. Ent. Soc. 1877, p. 154.

Dolichopsis was proposed by me for two species of very Dasytid appearance, but pertaining to the Necrobiides, from the Cape Colony. Of each species I have since then obtained fresh examples, but without more precise locality.

Dolichopsis auronitens, sp. n.

Subcylindricus, late viridi-auronitens, longius griseo-pubescentis; capite prothoraceque subtiliter creberrime punctatis; elytris creberrime et confluentur fortiter punctatis; antennis pedibusque testaceis.

Long. 5-7.5 millim.

Hab. Natal, 6576, 6677, 6718 (*Marshall*).

The larger of three examples before me is rather smaller than the larger examples of *D. haplocnemodes*; the head and thorax are more finely and the elytra more coarsely punctate. It is also more cylindrical. The legs and antennæ are testaceous, the claws and the extreme tip of the latter infusate. The colour varies a little from grass-green with a pale golden reflection to brassy. Being more convex, it is even more like the species of the Melyrid genus *Haplocnemus* than the type. The pile is very long and thick in fresh specimens.

Three examples.

Corynetes analis, Klug.

Corynetes analis, Klug, Mon. Cler., Abhand. Berl. Akad. 1842, p. 348 †.
Corynetes pallicornis, Spin. Mon. ii. p. 95, tab. xliii. fig. 3 [*analis*].

Hab. Natal (*Plant*), Estcourt, Frere (*Marshall*); Caffraria († *Krebs*).

The identification of this with *Corynetes abdominalis*, Fabr. Syst. Ent. i. p. 286, is an error, that insect being from "India," and also having the whole abdomen pale; and no doubt Fabricius's description refers to some wholly different insect at present unidentified.

The records from Senegal need, I think, confirmation.

* See description of *Philocalus pretiosus*, Gorh. Ann. Mus. Civ. di Genova, xviii. 1883, p. 602 (Abyssinia).

Corynetes concolor, sp. n.

Niger, supra cæruleus; capite prothoraceque crebre distincto punctatis; clytris fortiter punctato-striatis; pubescens; antennis pedibusque nigris; tibiis subcærulescentibus.
Long. 5-7 millim.

Hab. Natal, Estcourt (*Marshall*).

In form and sculpture and as regards size very like *C. analis*, but immediately distinguished from it by the colour of the legs and antennæ.

The punctuation of the head and thorax is less confluent, and hence under a strong glass the surface looks more even. The clytra have the series of punctures somewhat irregular; those near the suture are geminate for half their length from the base, but not distinctly so, and they are similar in *C. analis*. The pubescence is similar to that of *C. analis*.

Four specimens were obtained by "beating" by Mr. Marshall near Estcourt.

Opetiopalpus rubricollis, Klug.

Opetiopalpus rubricollis, Klug, Mon. Cler., Abhand. Berl. Akad. 1837-40, p. 352.

Hab. Natal, 3602-3 (*Marshall*).

Two examples of an *Opetiopalpus* which appears to be the insect indicated by Klug under this name were sent by Mr. Marshall. They are much smaller than the species which I possess as *O. collaris*, being only two millim. in length or a little over. The clytra are blue-black; the legs pale, with darker femora, and the claw-joint dark. They are the smallest examples of an *Opetiopalpus* I have seen.

Fam. Melyridæ.

Charopus cyanopterus, sp. n.

Nigro-subænescens, antennarum basi, femorum apice tibiisque testaceis; clytris cyaneis, crebre leviter punctatis, parum nitidis.
Long. vix 3 millim.

Hab. Natal, Frere (*Marshall*).

Head black, with an æneous reflection, as wide as the thorax, a little shining, smooth; antennæ almost simple, the three basal joints yellow, the basal joint just touched with dark above, the fourth and fifth dark, but pale at their bases and tips. Palpi black. Thorax subquadrate, rounded at the sides and base, scarcely any hind angles; the surface finely

aciculate, with an æneous tint. Elytra steel-blue, greenish at their bases in one example, very finely coriaceous, and with very short, scarcely visible pubescence. The legs are black; the tips of the femora and the tibiæ are yellow, in one example the hind tibiæ are fuscous. The hind body projects beyond the elytra in both examples.

Two specimens of this insect, which is rather like the European *C. pallipes*, but larger and more brightly coloured, were obtained. Sexual difference not apparent.

DINOMETOPUS, gen. nov.

Corpus oblongum, subparallelum. Elytra abdomen haud tegentia.

Caput (maris?) fronte crosso-excavata; erosionis marginibus elevatioribus, antice laminato-reflexo, lamina sulcata. Antennæ vix serratæ, fere simplices. Palpi maxillares apice subuliformi. Pedes longi; tarsi tibiæ fere longitudine, distincte quinque-articulati, antici (maris?) articulis longis subæqualibus haud multo obliquis.

I propose this name for a singular Melyrid having at first sight very much the appearance and size of *Anthocomus fasciatus*, but of which the head is excavated somewhat in the manner of some *Hedybi*. The genus *Cephaloncus*, Westwood, from the Canary Islands, is another example of this curious structure of heads in this subfamily, but has, according to Westwood, the excavation situate on the back of the head and different in form. *Troglops* has the crown of the head hollowed out, but has 4-jointed front tarsi in the male.

Kiesenwetter has described as a *Malachius* a very similarly constructed insect from Japan, *M. foveifrons*, K.; but it is necessary in classifying this subfamily to describe the sexual differences in the tarsi, in the antennæ, and form of the elytra where they exist.

Of the remarkable insect I describe here from Natal there are three specimens only, presumably males (as the heads are usually simple or only impressed in the females of Melyrids); the thorax is produced in a lobe-like form towards the base and is much depressed before the base. The elytra are not much expanded, nor are they convex nor in any way contorted at their apices as in many *Malachii* or *Anthocomi*.

Dinometopus natalensis, sp. n.

Niger, capite flavo, elytrorum margine laterali antice, fascia lata ad suturam interrupta, apiceque tenui flavis; tibiæ apicibus et

tarsis plus minusve flavescentibus; antennis basi flavis, articulis nigro-maculatis.

Long. 4 millim. ♂.

Mus? capitis occipite profunde excavato-eroso, erosionis margine antico laminato-reflexo, lamina sulcata, intus sub lamina nigro-maculata.

Hab. Natal, Estcourt (*Marshall*).

Head yellow, scarcely wider than the thorax across the eyes; the antennæ are about as long as would reach to the extremity of the elytra, black, but pale at the base, yet only the basal and second joints are clearly so, and they are both spotted with black above; they are scarcely serrate. The thorax is longer than wide, the front angles much depressed, the front margin broadly receiving the base of the head, narrowed towards the base very suddenly; its disk much depressed before the base, the margin only a little reflexed; punctuation not visible. The elytra are somewhat parallel, being very little wider at the apex than the base, finely coriaceous, black, faintly brassy; the lateral margin as far as a very broad fascia, only extending half across the elytra, and the extreme apical margin are yellow. The legs are nearly black, only the tips of the femora and the tarsi are sometimes obscurely yellow. The abdomen shows two or three segments beyond the elytra. The pubescence is very sparse and not easily seen without a strong lens.

Three examples, apparently all males.

Attalus? ornatipennis, sp. n.

Læte flavus, sat latus; capite nigro, fronte anguste flava, lævi; prothorace suborbiculare, glabro, aurantiaco; elytris flavis, basi et annulo postice aperto nigris, breviter pubescentibus, crebro haud profunde punctatis; metasterno nigro.

Long. 3.5 millim. ♂ ♀.

Mus, tarsorum anteriorum articulo secundo superne producto, tertium et quartum obtegente.

Hab. Mashonaland, Salisbury (*Marshall*).

Head black, smooth, shining, with the mouth and front bright orange-red. The antennæ are yellow, feebly, scarcely serrate; the thorax is as wide as the head and rather broad, glabrous, and deep orange, almost blood-red, its basal margin broadly reflexed, without any hind angles, slightly impressed near the middle of the base. Elytra a little broader than the thorax and a good deal widened behind, thickly clothed with grey short pubescence; in the male the black ring is open behind like a horse's shoe, distinctly, closely, finely punctured.

The legs and antennæ are deep yellow, and the apex, the suture, and the margins of the elytra have a tendency to this red colour, which is no doubt more conspicuous in the living insect. The tip of the prolonged second tarsal joint in the male is blackish, as in several other species; the claws are curved, with short pads, that give them the effect of being thickened at their bases when closed.

Two males and one female only occurred in December 1894, and a male and a female in January 1895, in sweeping to Mr. Guy Marshall.

Anthocomus apricus, sp. n.

Niger, tenuiter pubescens, antennarum articulis secundo ad quintum, elytrorum lateribus in medio et apice tibiisque flavis; tarsis fuscis, ad basin dilutioribus; antennis serratis.

Long. 4 millim. ♀.

Hab. Natal, Estcourt (*Marshall*).

Head black, shining, the membranous base of the labrum alone yellow, narrower than the thorax; the antennæ are a little longer than the head and thorax, yellow as far as the fifth or sixth joint, but the basal joint marked with black above, the fourth to the tenth joints acutely serrate. The thorax is half as wide again as long, of the usual form, truncate in front, the sides and base rounded, without angles, entirely black and shining. Elytra very closely and very obsoletely punctured, rather shining, clothed with upright black hairs, especially on the apical half, black, with the margin in the middle and the apex broadly orange-yellow, the yellow returning a little up the suture. The body beneath and the femora black; the tibiæ and bases of the tarsi yellow.

The examples, three in number, appear to be all females; at least there is no sexual character in either the antennæ or tarsi. The claws appear to have membranous short pads.

PAGURODACTYLUS, gen. nov.

Corpus subparallelum, pubescens. Antennæ leviter serratæ. Tarsi quinque-articulati, unguiculi anteriores inæquales, anteriore multo longiori.

This new genus of Malachiidæ is sufficiently characterized by the unequal anterior claws, a structure not known in any other genus of the subfamily. The tarsi are rather long, especially the hind pair; the front pair have the joints all oblique and produced at the apex beneath, the third and

fourth joints very short, the two basal joints longer, but short, and the claw-joint longer than the two basal ones taken together; the claws are thin, the anterior one of the front pair (*i. e.* the inner one, as set on a card) twice as long as the other. From the four specimens before me I cannot state if this is a sexual difference, probably it is not. The antennæ are simply formed, with joints two or three times as long as wide (excepting of course the second) and feebly serrate from the second to the tenth. In other respects the insect is allied to *Attalus* and *Anthocomus*.

Pagurodactylus vitticeps, sp. n.

Niger, pube erecta tenuiter vestitus, punctatus; antennarum basi pedibusque pallidis, his femoribus anticis et intermediis externe posticis totis, illis articulo basali nigrescentibus; capitis fronto et occipite interdum conjuncte ferrugineo-maculatis.
Long. $2\frac{1}{2}$ -3 millim.

Hab. Natal, Estcourt (*Marshall*).

The head with the rather prominent eyes is a little wider than the thorax; it is thickly and strongly punctured, with the mouth and front, and a spot on the crown, rusty red; these marks are often joined, forming a vitta. The thorax is small, narrower than the elytra at the base, flattish and impressed near the hind angles; shining, but with erect hairs and thickly punctured, the base and sides margined, but only the former conspicuously so. The elytra deeply subrugosely punctured, with long fine erect hairs, widening a little, but not much, towards their apex. The antennæ are as long as the elytra, their first and second joints touched with black above, the third quite pale, the fourth partly so; the fourth to the tenth joints are gently serrate, becoming gradually longer; the apical joint is a little longer than those preceding it, narrow and acuminate. The palpi are blackish at the tip. The legs are pale, with the exception that the upper edges of the middle and front femora, or sometimes the whole, and the whole of the hind femora and the hind tibiæ are dark, nearly black.

Four examples in which I can detect no sexual difference.

Apalochrus nitens, sp. n.

Læte viridis, elytris vel viridibus vel cæruleis; antennarum basi pedibusque flavis, his tarsis nigris.

Long. 6 millim. ♂ ♀.

Mos, tarsis anticis articulo secundo apice superne elongato; tibiis intermediis incrassatis, intus erosis.

Hab. Mashonaland, Salisbury (*Marshall*).

This species is evidently very much like *A. azureus*, Erichs., but appears to have darker antennæ, and the tarsi are dark, excepting the first joint and the basal part of the second joint of the anterior tarsi in the male. In the female the same joint is wholly dark.

Hedybius amœnus.

Hedybius amœnus, Gorham, in Distant's Naturalist in the Transvaal, p. 197, tab. i. fig. 2, ♀.

Mas, capite antice excavato-eroso, erosione ima et basi nigra; pone oculos elevato, quasi cornuto; antennis longioribus, articulis tertio et quarto compressis, intus modice expansis, subtus nigro-maculatis, superne linea tenuissima aurea, quinto ad apicalem superne nigro-maculatis; prothorace transverso, plaga magna et punctis duobus basalibus nigris.

Hab. Natal, Estcourt (*Marshall*).

The specimens from which this insect was described were two females. I have now the advantage of having several examples of both sexes before me, and I think there are three closely allied species all from Estcourt. The very extraordinary structure of the head is not precisely alike in these, and I associate the male described above with *H. amœnus* from the spotted antennæ, and from the form and amount of the black markings upon the head and the thorax, and from the hind tarsi being blackish in both sexes.

The front of the head is yellow, slightly more prominent in the male than in the female, the excavated erosion is pubescent at the back, and a spur of golden hairs, with a ridge of hairs connecting it with the sides, is to be seen at the bottom; on each side but in front of the eye a few yellow setæ are found; the elevated portion which forms the back of the eye and supports it is yellow and is not separated from the black temples by a deep sulcus as it is in *H. Marshalli*; moreover, the black mark, and indeed the whole disk, is shining and not opaque. These considerations lead me to believe we have here three closely allied but distinct species, and that we cannot assign either of them to *A. erosus*, Erichs., to which, however, they are obviously also allied.

Another male differs somewhat, in the coloration of the antennæ: the third to the sixth joints have each a black line above, the seventh has only an interrupted line, the apical joints being yellow, and the thorax lacks the two basal dots; too much reliance therefore must not be placed on the black markings.

Hedybius anceps, sp. n.

Læte flavus, capitis dimidio basali nigro; prothorace subquadrato vel toto flavo, vel punctis duobus parvis nigris; antennis pedibusque flavis, tarsis posticis infuscatis; elytris viridi-ceruleis, creberrime leviter punctatis.

Long. 6-6.5 millim. ♂ ♀.

Mas, capite antico excavato-eroso, erosione ima tota nigra, supra oculos alte elevato, quasi cornuto; antennis longis, vix serratis.

Femina, antennis multo brevioribus, leviter serratis.

Hab. Natal, Estcourt (*Marshall*).

This insect is so very closely allied to *H. amœnus*, that I think it only necessary to call attention to the observed differences, which are that the thorax is not transverse, in some males there is a slight denticulation in the margin, in others it is quite simple; the antennæ are longer in the male and unspotted, but with the extreme apex black; the elevated ridge borders the whole inner side of the eye, passing into the frontal elevation.

Obs.—It is perhaps not correct to say that the second joint of the front tarsi in the male overlaps the third, but it is certainly distorted and raised above the very short third joint, and is black at its tip.

The *Hedybii* which I have seen from the Cape of Good Hope, which at all resemble the above, have the heads quite differently formed in the males, and have smooth and shining elytra, wrinkled and substriate.

Hedybius Marshalli, sp. n.

Læte flavus, capitis basi, prothoracisque disco opaco maris, nigris, nigredine marginem anticam haud attingente, feminae macula irregulari subdivisa et metasterno nigris; antennis, palpis, pedibusque totis flavis.

Long., ♂ 6.5, ♀ 6 millim.

Mas, capite antice excavato-eroso, erosione ima nigro-notata; pone oculos elevato, quasi cornuto, nigro opaco; antennis longioribus.

Femina, occipite plano, depressiusculo; prothoracis disco nigro maculato.

Hab. Natal, Estcourt (*Marshall*).

Very closely allied to *H. amœnus*, to be distinguished from it by the wholly yellow antennæ and legs, and by the head having less black at its base in either sex, but especially by the elevated canthus of the eye, which rises like a short horn, being separated from the temples by a deep groove, yellow at the bottom; so that the eye and its horn are quite separated

from the black templar portion. The disk of the thorax is smooth but dull, it is yellow, but in the male a large patch, rather narrower in front than at the base, occupies the greater part and covers the base for nearly its whole width. The thorax is a little less wide than the head in the male, and in that sex the edge is notched below the middle. The scutellum is black; the elytra are blue or with a green metallic tint as in *H. amœnus* and very closely and finely punctured.

All these three *Hedybi* were found either on the *Acacia horrida* or by sweeping on grass, and no doubt on flowers and herbage generally.

PHILHEDONUS, gen. nov.

Corpus oblongum, postice modice expansum. Antennæ breves, in utroque sexu leviter serratæ. Tarsi longi, maris 4-articulati. Caput (maris) carinâ transversâ bidentatâ. Prothorax (maris) antice dentato-productus. Reliquæ plerumque ut in *Hedybio*, Erichson.

Philhedonus coronatus, sp. n.

Niger, ore, antennarum basi, thoraceque rufis, hoc punctis duobus interdum confluentibus nigris; clytris cæruleis, creberrime minute punctatis, pube brevi tenuiter erecta vestitis.

Long. 5.5-6 millim.

Mas, capite carina transversa, bidentata, postice instructa; prothoracis margine antico dentato-producto; tarsis 4-articulatis.

Hab. Mashonaland, Salisbury (*Marshall*).

The head is black, the labrum blood-red, and the palpi are blackish. The antennæ are rather shorter than they usually are in female *Hedybi*; their third to the tenth joints are subequal, and not or scarcely longer than wide, there is no apparent difference in those of the male; the first four joints are yellow, but in the male and sometimes in the female the third and fourth are infuscate internally. The head in the male has at its base a ridge which is bituberculate on each side, the outer tubercule being the larger, and both are yellow at their summits; the thorax in this sex has the middle of the front margin acutely produced and turned upwards, with a tuft of black hairs at its tip. The disk of the thorax is very smooth and shining, blood-red, with either two nearly confluent black dots or with a single larger spot nearly reaching the front margin; its front margin in the female is truncate, faintly bisinuate, the sides and base together round and finely margined. The scutellum is transverse, black, and

punctured. The elytra are ample, widened behind, deep blue or bluish green, obsolete sulcate at the base; near the suture closely and finely punctured. The abdomen is black, like the body, but the membranes joining the segments are almost scarlet, so that when distended they appear margined with red. Also the vesicles which these insects can project when alarmed, in common with the *Malachii* and *Hedybi*, are red. The legs are entirely black, the tarsi four-fifths of the length of the tibiae.

Obs.—This very distinct genus is the only one yet described of the larger *Malachiides* with four-jointed tarsi in the male—a character found in the small European *Troglops* and *Colotes*. I have no doubt the anterior production of the thorax in the male is a stridulating apparatus.

One male and three females were obtained by Mr. Marshall.

Fam. Lycidæ.

Lycus Distanti, Bourgeois.

Lycus Distanti, Bourgeois, in Distant's Naturalist in the Transvaal, p. 196, t. i. fig. 3. ♂.

♀. Minus, attamen modice expansus, mari similiter coloratus, sed subtus saturatiori; abdomine, lateribus et segmentis duobus apicalibus exceptis, nigro, margine humerali multo minus elevato-reflexo.

Long. 12 millim.

Hab. Natal, Malvern. ♂ ♀.

This species, described by M. J. Bourgeois, appears to differ from *L. elevatus*, Guérin-Mén., Bohem. Ins. Caffr. i. fasc. 2, p. 428, by lacking the lateral black mark, as well as by the shorter rostrum and some differences in form. The male of our insect has the abdomen wholly yellow. The female was not met with by Mr. Distant, and is now described for the first time. The single male sent by Mr. Marshall has the black apical portion of the elytra less contracted than in the single example taken by Mr. Distant at Pretoria, but which struck me when I saw it as a good deal shrivelled, not altogether in a normal condition. I have not seen *L. elevatus*.

Lycus terminatus, Dalm. (*Acantholycus*, Bourg.)

Hab. Mashonaland, Salisbury. ♂ ♀.

Several examples.

Lycus sinuatus, Dalm. (*Haplolycus*, B.)

Hab. Natal, Tugela River.

Lycus, sp.

Hab. Natal, Karkloof.

Lycus haagi, Bourg. (*Lopholycus*, B.)

Lycus haagi, Bourg. Ann. Soc. Ent. Fr. 1878, p. 166.

Hab. Natal, Tugela River, Weenen (*Marshall*); Transvaal, Barberton.

Fam. Lampyridæ.

Lampyris nigripennis, Bohem.

Hab. Natal, Tugela River.

Lampyris tinctoria, sp. n.

Ochracea, capite, antennis, elytrorum basi, geniculis, tibiis, tarsisque nigro-fumosis.

Long. 14 millim. ♂.

Hab. Mashonaland, Gadzima, Umfuli River (*Marshall*).

Parallel, the thorax as wide as the elytra at the base, as long as or a little longer than wide, delicately carinate, rather strongly so near the base, the disk rather strongly "honeycomb" punctured in front, the sides and basal half obsolete so; scutellum elongate ochraceous; the elytra are opaque, with a smoky patch on their bases, not reaching the outer margin, and shading off indefinitely on the apical side; wings smoky. The body beneath is ochraceous; the femora outwardly and at the knees, the tibiæ and tarsi entirely smoky black.

The antennæ are black, but inclined to be fuscous at their base; the mouth and palpi are ochraceous, fuscous in parts.

Three examples.

Lampyris imbecilla, sp. n.

Pallide fusco-testacea, antennis, pedibus, prothoracisque disco indeterminate subfuscis; elytris nitidis, distincte tricostratis, quam abdomen quadrante brevioribus, debilibus, fuscis.

Long. 13-14 millim. ♂.

Hab. Natal, Estcourt (*Marshall*).

Narrow, obscurely coloured. Thorax as long as wide, the

hind angles right, the whole surface obsolete, but rugosely, punctured, the disk shining, channelled in the middle only, scarcely carinate, but with a smooth line in front, of a dirty bone-yellow, but the basal portion within the rather straight sulci ochraceous, the central channel is wide, but short. The elytra are shorter by a fourth part than the abdomen, they are attenuated and shrivelled (which is probably their normal condition from their being very thin); the body beneath is bone-colour, the margins of each segment are paler.

This insect is about the size of, and somewhat like, the European *L. Lareyniei*. The shortening of the elytra is a character shared with *L. Huddi*, Gorb., but not to the same degree.

Lampyrus natalensis.

Lampyrus natalensis, Bohem. Ins. Caffr. p. 442.

Hab. Mashonaland, Salisbury (*Marshall*, at light); Lake Nyasa (*coll. Gorham*).

To this I refer three specimens from Salisbury which have the disk of the thorax with a nearly square black spot placed posteriorly, but not touching the base, and the elytra fuscous with the suture and margins pale.

Lampyrus troglodytes.

Lampyrus troglodytes, Bohem. Ins. Caffr. p. 444.

Hab. Natal, Tugela River (*Marshall*).

Four examples.

Fam. Telephoridæ.

Telephorus (Cantharis) circumdata.

Telephorus (Cantharis) circumdata, Bohem. Ins. Caffr. p. 456.

Hab. Natal, Estcourt (*Marshall*).

Ichthyurus, sp.?

Malthinus australis, Péringuey.

Hab. Natal, 4944 (*Marshall*).

A single female labelled with M. Péringuey's name belongs to this genus, but cannot be identified by that sex alone.

PROSTHAPTUS, gen. nov.

Corpus parvum, quasi *Malthodis*. Antennæ 11-articulatæ, maris tertio incrassato, quam secundus duplo longiore, quarto ad septimum parum elongatis, subæqualibus, octavo quam septimus sesqui longiore, tribus ultimis debilibus, quam præcedentes multo

minoribus. Prothoracis margo lateralis in medio dentato-plicatus
Femora compressa, intermedia et postica curvata. Elytra
abbreviata.

This name is proposed for a singular Telephorid resembling a very small *Malthodes*, but with the antennæ of the male remarkable for the three small apical joints, which spring rather from one side of the oblique termination of the large eighth joint: the three basal joints are somewhat distorted, the third being a little swollen and with a minute linear impression on its inner side. The femora are a little widened and compressed, the intermediate and hinder pairs being bent. The antennæ of the female are quite simple.

Prosthaptus claudus, sp. n.

Parvus; *Malthodis minimi*, L., statura, fuscus; coxis, femorum basi, tibisque dilutioribus, substaeicis; antennis (maris) flavis, apice nigris, (feminae) basi tantum testaceis.

Long. 3 millim. ♂ ♀.

Mas, antennis parum distortis, articulo tertio incrassato, extus fusco-tincto, octavo præcedente sesqui longiore, tribus ultimis parvis.

Femina, antennis simplicibus.

Hab. Mashonaland, Salisbury (*Marshall*).

The head is black and shining, with the antennal sockets and the epistome and mouth yellow; the antennæ are about as long as the head, thorax, and elytra taken together, yellow in the male, with only the outside of the third joint, the tip of the eighth, and the three small apical joints blackish, in the female they are fuscous with the base indeterminately yellow. The thorax is small and transverse, as wide as the head, smooth, the lateral margin with a tooth-like projection (somewhat as in *Plectonotum*, a Central and South American genus), and the hind angle rather prominent. The elytra are as in *Malthodes*, about half as long as the body, rather opaque, fuscous; the wings are amply developed, covering the hind-body, and are fuscous. The legs are of normal length; the femora appear to be very much compressed, and the middle and hind pair to be curved and distorted.

Many genera of Telephoridae with the antennæ very singularly distorted or abnormally formed have now been described, but nothing like the present genus is known to me from the African continent. It appears to connect certain forms which I have placed near *Silis* with *Malthodes*; it is a small, obscurely coloured insect, but of interesting structure.

Two males and one female were obtained by sweeping.

Section PSEUDOTETRAMERA.

Fam. Erotylidæ.

Subfam. LANGURIIDES.

PROMECOLANGURIA, Fowler.

Promecolanguria Marshalli, sp. n.

Elongata, parallela, subdepressa, nigra, subnitida; capite elytrisque cyanescentibus, illo crebre ac distincte punctato, his profunde crebre punctato-striatis: prothorace oblongo, postice vix angustato, latitudine fere duplo longiori, subtilius concinne punctato, medio vage canaliculato rufo, antice indistincte nigro-maculato; antennis articulis sex basalibus pedibusque ferrugineis, femoribus et genibus plus minusve infuscatis: lineis abdominalibus nullis.

Long. 7 millim.

Hab. Natal, 2008, 3947 (*Marshall*).

Promecolanguria was proposed as a genus by Fowler for *Languria dimidiata* (Guérin, Icon. R. A., Ins. p. 314), and is also given in my table of genera (P. Z. S. 1887, p. 361).

There are no abdominal lines; the eyes are not very coarse, the facets being only just visible, but the depressed form and the oblong and parallel-sided thorax, with finely neatly margined sides, the prosternal process rather long, truncate, and margined with a thickened edge, give these insects a very distinct appearance among the Languriides. I suspect that *Languria lyctoïdes*, Fowler (Comptes rendus Soc. Ent. Belg.), belongs to the genus.

The species obtained by Mr. Marshall is very like an insect I have received from the Cape Colony, but has the thorax quite differently shaped from the Langurias I have seen from that Colony. The underside is not so coarsely punctured as that of *L. dimidiata*; the abdomen is quite finely punctured. Two specimens.

Promecolanguria trogositoides, sp. n.

Sordido flava, capite prothoraceque, antennis pedibusque piccis; illo basi, his basi tarsisque flavis.

Long. vix 6 millim.

Hab. Natal, 3748, 3509 (*Marshall*).

This insect is similar in form to *P. Marshalli*, but is smaller, the thorax is a little more contracted towards the base and shows only a very faint trace of canaliculation towards its base; the puncturing is fine and like that of *P. Marshalli*. The head is either black with a metallic

tinge, or pitchy, finely and thickly punctured; the antennæ with four or five joints at the base pitchy red, gradually passing into the black club, insensibly thickened from the seventh joint, but the club is clearly three-jointed. The thorax is pitchy, becoming yellow in the basal half, with a slight metallic tint. The elytra are punctate-striate (as in *P. Marshalli*); there are eight striæ, apart from the marginal one, which is on the reflexed edge; their apex is simple, the sutural angle is a right angle, and there is no mucro.

Subfam. *DACNIDES*.

AMBLYSCELIS, Gorham.

Amblyscelis nigrinus, sp. n.

Breviter oblongus, subcordatus, nitidus, niger, crebre fortius punctatus; elytris punctato-striatis, interstitiis punctulatis; antennis pedibusque ferrugineis, femoribus piceis.

Long. 4 millim.

Hab. Natal, 7252, 7253, 219, 220 (*Marshall*).

Black, shining; legs and antennæ and palpi yellow, the femora pitchy or nearly black; tibiæ very strongly dilated in their apical half. Head and thorax closely and strongly punctured, the punctures not confluent. Antennæ of the form and length usual in the genus, rather slender, their length about equal to the width of the head, the two basal joints nodiform, the third elongate, the club composed of three strongly transverse joints. The thorax very little narrowed in front, with deflexed front angles, the hind angles almost right angles, the disk convex, the sides very finely margined; the base and apical margin not margined. Elytra narrowed to the apex, presenting almost a uniform outline with the thorax, finely striate, with close but small punctures, the striæ and punctures continued to the apex; the interstices even, with small, rather sparse punctures. Underside thickly, not deeply nor coarsely, punctured; prosternal process very wide at the truncate apex and margined; coxal lines on the ventral basal segment, which appear raised.

This species has quite the appearance of a *Triplax*. As Crotch remarks, the African species which have been referred to that genus are not typical.

Amblyscelis Conradi, sp. n.

A. nigrini statura et summa similitudine, niger, nitidus, crebre fortius punctatus; elytris profundius punctato-striatis, interstitiis

fortius punctulatis; labro, antennis, palpis, pedibusque luteis, illis articulis quinque ultimis nigro-piceis, clava laxo articulata.
Long. 4 millim.

Hab. W. Africa, N. Cameroon, Johann Albrechtshöhe (L. Conradt).

Of the same size and extremely like *A. nigrinus*, but rather broader, more like a *Tritoma*, the antennæ are longer, their third joint is almost as long as the two basal ones taken together; the fourth, fifth, and sixth are elongate, the seventh and eighth bead-form; the three apical joints form a lax club, the first two are strongly transverse, the apical one round and yellowish at the tip. The body beneath is pitchy, but nearly black, strongly and deeply punctured. The legs with their coxæ are entirely luteous yellow.

Sent to me by Dr. Kraatz for description.

Amblyscelis brunneus, sp. n.

Oblongus, subparallelus, totus brunneus, parum nitidus; capite prothoracequo creberrime, distincte haud profunde punctatis; elytris striato-punctatis, subcrenulatis, interstitiis haud punctatis, subopacis.
Long. 4.5 millim.

Hab. Natal, Esteourt, Frere (Marshall).

This insect is very like the species described by me as *A. pallidus* ('Notes from Leyden Museum,' 1888, p. 146) from the Congo, but on comparing them closely it is rather larger than the single exponent of that species in my possession, and the interstices of the elytra are not finely punctulate as they are in it. It is of a parallel, dull, rusty-brown colour. The antennæ are short, with the club almost capitulate, composed of three strongly transverse joints. The thorax is convex, with its basal margin somewhat deflexed, except in the middle, so that the lobe appears rather elevated in front of the scutellum. The sides are a little more rounded than in *A. pallidus* and the front angles depressed. The elytra have eight finely punctured striae, the punctures of which are so close that they almost join each other; the striae coalesce in pairs near the apex. The tibiæ are strongly dilated in the apical half, the dilated part compressed. This insect is like a unicolorous *T. vittipennis* (Gorh. P. Z. S. 1889, p. 614), but is smaller, and the dilatation of the tibiæ and the structure of the antennæ, especially that of the club, are quite different. I have taken an African insect for the type of *Amblyscelis*, otherwise I should have regarded this species and *A. nigrinus* as belonging to my genus *Petaloscelis*.

The African Triplacid genera will no doubt require revision when they are better known ; at present the species described as "*Triplax*" are a medley.

Mr. Marshall's examples of *A. brunneus* were taken at light.

Amblyscelis hæmorrhous.

Amblyopus hæmorrhous, Gorham, Ann. Soc. Ent. Belg. vi. 1885, p. 326.

Sanguineo-rufus ; elytris nigo-fuscis, puncto humerali apiceque indeterminate rufis ; crebre punctatus ; elytris punctato-striatis, opacis, interstitiis crebre perminute punctulatis.

Long. 5 millim.

Hab. Natal, Estcourt (*Marshall*).

There is something remarkable in the fact that I have described an insect from India which I cannot separate from this insect, and in writing that description I say: "had this species been an African insect I should have referred it to my genus *Amblyscelis*, for the tibiæ are angularly widened." Mr. Marshall now sends three recent examples, of the origin of which there can be no doubt, and except that they are less shining than my Indian type, I can detect no difference.

PYCNOGEUSTERIA, gen. nov.

Corpus oblongum, nitidum, punctatum, haud pubescens. Oculi concinne leviter reticulati. Antennæ articulo tertio duobus basalibus superante, quarto ad octavum haud transversis, tribus ultimis clavam oblongam formantibus, decimo cum apicali connato. Palpi maxillares articulo apicali triangulari valde dilatato, labiales articulo ultimo oblongo parum dilatato. Pronotum fere ut in *Amblyopo*, tenuissime marginatum, prosterni processu lato æquali opaco, antice haud elevato vel compresso. Metasternum leve. Abdomen æquale, leviter parce punctatum, lineis nullis. Pedes compressi ; femoribus sat latis ; tibiis valde angulariter ad apicem dilatatis.

The type of this new genus is a black insect with the antennæ, trophi, and body beneath, with the exception of the head, prosternum, mesosternum, and mesothoracic epistoma, bright luteous yellow ; the parts are so distinctly separated in colour as to render it an easy object of study ; the mesothorax may be piccous, but the yellow mesothoracic epimera are peculiar. It will be observed that *Pycnogeusteria* approaches both *Amblyopus* and *Amblyscelis* ; from the former the almost entire absence of raised lines on the abdomen (they are distinct in *A. vittatus*, running across the segment) and the

plain prosternum, as well as the much more dilated tibiae, from the latter the quite finely faceted eyes and superior size, amply separate it, not to mention minor differences such as the antennal and palpal structure.

Pycnogasteria Kraatzi, sp. n.

Oblonga, subparallela, aterrima, nitida, crebre fortiter punctata; elytris seriatim punctatis, striis parum impressis, interstitiis crebre minute punctulatis; labro, antennis (apice fusco), palpis, prothoracis, epimeris, metasterno pedibusque laete luteis; corpore subtus leviter crebre punctato.

Long. 9 millim.

Hab. W. Africa, N. Cameroon, Johann Albrechtshöhe (*L. Conradt*).

Head black, strongly, at the base almost coarsely, punctate; the epistoma very distinctly separated from the labrum, produced and deflexed, the latter bright pale yellow; the mouth and trophi yellow, except the mandibles, which are only pitchy externally. Thorax black at the base, twice as wide as long, narrowed in front, with the front angles a little depressed, finely margined except in the middle of the front and base, thickly punctured, but less so than the head, and not so strongly, there being room for other punctures. The base of the elytra is of the width and forms an even outline with the thorax. The elytra are entirely black, very finely seriate punctate, the small punctures in the series being close but not impressed in striae, the interstices being also thickly minutely punctate; they are continued evenly to the end, but coalesce before reaching the apex. The body beneath is sparsely and finely punctured; the mesosternum is black (or pitchy in less matured specimens); the metasternum with its side pieces, the meso-episterna, and abdomen and legs are all entirely clear luteous yellow.

I have pleasure in dedicating this insect to Dr. Kraatz, the veteran writer on European Coleoptera, who sent it me with other Erotylidae.

N.B.—This insect very closely resembles a new *Zythonia*, which I propose to describe as *Z. anthracina*, and which appears to inhabit the same district, as well as the Congo, from whence my examples came.

LOPHOCROTAPHUS, gen. nov.

Forma oblonga plerumque *Mycotreti* vel *Amblyopi*, sed caput maris depressum, ad templa ampliatum in carinam elevatum. Oculi per carinam subdivisi, haud magni, tenuiter reticulati. Mentum

triangulare. Antennæ (maris) longi, caput prothoracemquo superantes: articulis longioribus quam lati, tertio elongato, tribus ultimis clavam laxam formantibus; feminae dimidio fere breviores. Palpi maxillares articulo ultimo transverso, valido. Pronotum (praesertim maris) valde transversum, plus quam duplo latum quam longum. Lineæ metasternales et abdominales distinctæ. Tibiæ lineares; tarsi breves. Corpus castaneum, punctatum, haud pubescens. Maris clypei carina altitudine variat.

Hab. West Africa, Gold Coast, Guinea, and Cameroon Mountains.

This extraordinary Erotylid has been long known to me from a male and female I obtained from Mr. G. Waterhouse's collection, where it stood as *Amblyopus testaceus*, Lac., with which, however, it has nothing to do. While the female presents no peculiarities beyond those of some ordinary yellow Triplacid, the male conveys the idea of some Heteromeres genus like *Gnathocerus*. The longer antennæ in this sex and the depressed clypeus, with sinuate sides, and an elevated crest in front of the eyes which invades and almost divides them, are unlike anything I have met with in the Erotylidæ before.

Lophocrotaphus guineensis, sp. n.

Oblongus, testaceus, punctatus; antennis, basi excepta, nigris; elytris obsolete punctato-striatis, interstitiis punctatis.

Long. 4-4.5 millim.

Mas, clypeo depresso, ad latera sinuato, ante oculos elevatiore, in carinam altam oculos incidentem perrecto; antennis longis.

Femina, capite minore, ad antennarum insertionem parum elevato, ad canthum ocularem paululum producto; antennis brevioribus.

Hab. Africa, Guinea.

Var. ? Maris clypeo carinâ altiore, cornu muticum nigricans compressum simulante.

Hab. Africa, Cameroon, Johann Albrechtshöhe (*L. Conradt*).

ZYTHONIA.

Zythonia, Westwood, Thesaur. Ent. p. 108 (1874).

Zythonia anthracina, sp. n.

Elongato-ovalis, aterrima, nitida; capite prothoraceque creberrime leviter punctatis; clytris tenuiter punctato-striatis, striis vix impressis; abdomine fulvo; tarsis piccis.

Long. 6.5-9 millim.

Hab. Upper Congo (*Clark*).

The form is that of *Episcaphula*, elongate-ovate, narrowed in front, and the elytra especially so behind, subcordate, shining black, the surface very even. The antennæ have the third joint elongate, the fourth to the seventh short and nodiform, the eighth is triangular, the last three form a wide club and are transverse, the apical one being compressed; the eyes are finely faceted. The thorax is much narrowed in front, its base is bisinuate, the sides neatly and finely margined; its surface quite smooth, not impressed, and exceedingly finely but thickly punctured. The elytra are of the same width as the thorax at their base, and form with it a nearly continuous outline; they are very finely punctate-striate, the punctures in the series numerous and close; the interstices are even, and under a Coddington lens are very finely punctured, but not so as to prevent the surface being very shining. The under surface is very smooth; short raised metasternal and abdominal lines are present, the latter extend over half the basal segment; the sides of the hind-body are obsoletely punctate, and it is wholly clear fulvous yellow. The legs are black, with pitchy tarsi; the femora are compressed, a little thickened, not punctured; the tibiæ very little widened, the tarsi not long, the claw-joint as long as the basal part.

Many specimens of this interesting species, the second at present known, were collected by Mr. Clark on the Upper Congo. In form, size, and sculpture it is very like its congener, *Z. fulva*, Westw., which is a rare insect of which I have only seen a few examples.

Fam. Endomychidæ.

Ancylopus nigrofuscus, sp. n.

Totus nigro-fuscus vel brunneus; capito prothoraceque crebro ac distincto punctatis, hoc leviter transverso, antice a basi parum angustato, basi marginato, sulcis basalibus distinctis ad medium disci proventis; clytris crebre distincte punctatis, nitidis, subtus eum pedibus unicolore.

Long. 6 millim.

Mas, tibiis anticis, dente parvulo infra medium, intus munitis.

Hab. Natal, 5572, 5573, 5574, 5575; Congo, Boma.

This insect is evidently allied to *A. fuscipennis*, Gahan, in Distant's 'Transvaal,' p. 210, t. iv. fig. 10, but is larger, and differs by the thorax not having the sides rounded, as described by him and shown in the figure, but evenly narrowed

from the base to the front angles, which also are more prominent and more acute; the basal sulci are prolonged over half the disk of the thorax, and are linear, deeply impressed at their base, and parallel. The whole insect is nearly unicolorous, but of the four examples before me two are lighter in colour than the others. The antennæ have their third joint rather longer than the fourth and fifth together, the club is three-jointed and is distinct, the eighth joint being in no way wider than those preceding it. If the figure of *A. fuscipennis* is correct, this should not be the case in that species, the antennæ appearing there gradually thickened without a distinct club. Four examples were obtained by Mr. Marshall. I have also received it from the Congo, from Boma (*M. Tschoffen*). The examples from there are black, and are females, with pitchy antennæ, and the joints of the legs and disk of the thorax and other parts more or less pitchy.

XI.—*Descriptions of Three new Forms of Tragelaphus.*

By R. I. ПОКОК.

EARLY in the spring of 1898 my colleague Mr. Oldfield Thomas, who was unhappily compelled by ill health to abandon for the time being all zoological work, kindly asked me to undertake, with Dr. Sclater's acquiescence, his share of the preparation of the systematic and bibliographical section of the part of the 'Book of Antelopes' dealing with the Tragelaphinæ, so that no delay in the completion of the work should be caused by his enforced absence from London. At the suggestion of the joint authors of this work, the three new forms of Bushbuck, which came to light during the investigation of the species of the genus *Tragelaphus*, are described in the following pages prior to their appearance in the forthcoming part of the 'Book of Antelopes,' in order that the responsibility for them should, rightly, rest solely with me.

Tragelaphus scriptus (Pallas).

To the known subspecific forms of this species, namely *T. scriptus typicus*, *decula*, *sylvaticus*, and *Roualeyni*, the following two may be added:—

Subspecies *ornatus*, nov.

Adult male of the same size and much the same general